

### Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for reproducing information recorded on an optical disk which is provided for recording data of a signal modulated according to a predetermined modulation method in a form of concavo-convex pits, said optical disk comprising a first area having a reflecting film partly removed, and a second area for recording pits which are different from pits satisfying requirements of said predetermined modulation method, said apparatus comprising:

    a first area detecting circuit for detecting said first area in accordance with a reproduced signal from said optical disk upon reproducing information recorded in said first area, and outputting a first detecting signal;

    a second area detecting circuit for detecting said second area in accordance with a reproduced signal from said optical disk upon reproducing information recorded in said second area, and outputting a second detecting signal; and

    judging means for judging whether or not the information recorded on said optical disk should be reproduced, in accordance with said first and second detecting signals,

    wherein said second area detecting circuit comprises:

        a ~~second~~ first comparator for comparing the reproduced signal from said optical disk upon reproducing information recorded in said second area, with a predetermined ~~second~~ first threshold value, and outputting a ~~second~~ first comparison result signal;

        a ~~third~~ second comparator for comparing the reproduced signal from said optical disk upon reproducing information recorded in said second area, with a predetermined ~~third~~ second threshold value, and outputting a ~~third~~ second comparison result signal; and

        an arithmetic logic circuit for performing a logic operation between said ~~second~~ first comparison result signal and said ~~third~~ second comparison result signal, and outputting a logic operation result signal,

    wherein said first area detecting circuit judges whether or not said first area is detected in accordance with whether or not a first number of data from a predetermined sector address to said detected first area, which is counted based on the reproduced signal from said optical disk upon reproducing information recorded on ~~the~~ a track including said first area, substantially coincides with

a second number of data from said predetermined sector address to said detected first area, which is counted based on ~~the a~~ reproduced signal from said optical disk upon reproducing information recorded on a further track including said first area and adjacent to said track.

2. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus for reproducing information recorded on an optical disk which is provided for recording data of a signal modulated according to a predetermined modulation method in a form of concavo-convex pits, said optical disk comprising a first area having a reflecting film partly removed, a second area for recording pits which are different from pits satisfying requirements of said predetermined modulation method, a first area location information recording area for recording location information of said first area on said optical disk, and a second area location information recording area for recording location information of said second area on said optical disk, said apparatus comprising:

a first detecting window generating circuit for generating a first detecting window signal in accordance with said location information of said first area on said optical disk recorded in said first area location information recording area;

a second detecting window generating circuit for generating a second detecting window signal in accordance with said location information of said second area on said optical disk recorded in said second area location information recording area;

a first area detecting circuit for detecting said first area in accordance with a reproduced signal from said optical disk upon reproducing information recorded in said first area, and outputting a first detecting signal;

a second area detecting circuit for detecting said second area in accordance with a reproduced signal from said optical disk upon reproducing information recorded in said second area, and outputting a second detecting signal; and

judging means for judging whether or not the information recorded on said optical disk should be reproduced, in accordance with said first detecting signal in a valid time interval of said first detecting window signal, and said second detecting signal in a valid time interval of said second detecting window signal,

wherein said second area detecting circuit comprises:

a ~~second~~ first comparator for comparing the reproduced signal from said optical disk upon reproducing information recorded in said second area, with a predetermined ~~second~~ first threshold value, and outputting a ~~second~~ first comparison result signal;

a ~~third~~ second comparator for comparing the reproduced signal from said optical disk upon reproducing information recorded in said second area, with a predetermined ~~third~~ second threshold value, and outputting a ~~third~~ second comparison result signal; and

an arithmetic logic circuit for performing a logic operation between said ~~second~~ first comparison result signal and said ~~third~~ second comparison result signal, and outputting a logic operation result signal,

wherein said first area detecting circuit judges whether or not said first area is detected in accordance with whether or not a first number of data from a predetermined sector address to said detected first area, which is counted based on the reproduced signal from said optical disk upon reproducing information recorded on ~~the~~ a track including said first area, substantially coincides with a second number of data from said predetermined sector address to said detected first area, which is counted based on ~~the~~ a reproduced signal from said optical disk upon reproducing information recorded on a further track including said first area and adjacent to said track.